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PATENT  
1163-0395P

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Tadashi YAMAURA et al. Conf.: 5580

Appl. No.: 10/083,556 Group: 2655

Filed: February 27, 2002 Examiner: HUYEN X. VO

For: SPEECH ENCODING APPARATUS, SPEECH  
ENCODING METHOD, SPEECH DECODING  
APPARATUS, AND SPEECH DECODING METHOD

STATUS INQUIRY

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

JAN 11 2005

Sir:

Please advise the undersigned as to the status of the above-identified application as follows:

**Status of Office Action**

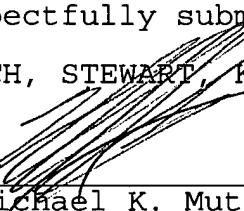
A duplicate copy of the present Status Inquiry is attached hereto. It is respectfully requested that the duplicate copy be marked appropriately to indicate the status of the above-identified application and returned to the undersigned as soon as possible.

Please call the undersigned if there are any questions with regard to the present request.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By

  
Michael K. Mutter, #29,680

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- Awaiting Action from Patent Office Examiner - Expected Date for Action is: \_\_\_\_\_.
- Awaiting Decision by Board of Appeals.
- Application allowed on \_\_\_\_\_.
- Abandoned per \_\_\_\_\_.
- Other \_\_\_\_\_.